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May 7, 2002

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**Via Hand Carry
To Art Unit 1645**

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Appl. No. 09/848,616; Filed: May 4, 2001
For: **Molecular Antigen Array**
Inventors: Sebbel *et al.*
Our Ref: 1700.0180002/JAG/BJD

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Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Information Disclosure Statement;
2. 35 pages of Form PTO-1449 citing 136 documents;
3. A copy of each of the 136 cited documents; and
4. One (1) return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Commissioner for Patents
May 7, 2002
Page 2

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian J. Del Buono", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Brian J. Del Buono
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 42,473

BJD/nef
Enclosures

SKGF_DC1:11430.1

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re application of:

Sebbel *et al.*

Appl. No. 09/848,616

Filed: May 4, 2001

For: **Molecular Antigen Array**

Confirmation No. 6018

Art Unit: 1645

Examiner: *To be assigned*

Atty. Docket: 1700.0180002/JAG/BJD

Information Disclosure Statement

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Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Listed on accompanying Form PTO-1449 are documents that may be considered material to the examination of this application, in compliance with the duty of disclosure requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98. A copy of each of these documents is provided.

Where the publication date of a listed document does not provide a month of publication, the year of publication of the listed document is sufficiently earlier than the effective U.S. filing date and any foreign priority date so that the month of publication is not in issue. Applicants have listed publication dates on the attached PTO-1449 based on information presently available to the undersigned. However, the listed publication dates should not be construed as an admission that the information was actually published on the date indicated.

Applicants note that Document No. **AL2**, cited on the accompanying Form PTO-1449, is a non-English language PCT application. In accordance with M.P.E.P. § 609 III.A(3), Applicants submit herewith Document No. **AA2**, which issued

from a U.S. National phase application based on Document No. **AL2**. Thus, Applicants believe that Document No. **AA2** is an English language equivalent of Document No. **AL2**, and that no further concise explanation is required. *See* M.P.E.P. § 609 III.A(3) (August 2001).

The Examiner is referred to the following list of related, co-pending patent applications:

U.S. Patent Application No. 10/050,902, filed January 18, 2002, inventors Renner *et al.*, submitted herewith as Document **AT34**;

U.S. Patent Application No. 10/050,898, filed January 18, 2002, inventors Renner *et al.*, submitted herewith as Document **AR35**.

The identification of these U.S. Patent Applications is not to be construed as a waiver of secrecy as to these applications now or upon issuance of the present application as a patent. The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the cited applications and the art cited therein during examination.

Applicants reserve the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the information provided herewith, and/or to prove that this information may not be prior art, and/or to prove that this information may not be enabling for the teachings purportedly offered.

This statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or that information more material to the examination of the present patent application does not exist. The Examiner is specifically requested not to rely solely on the material submitted herewith. It is further understood that the Examiner will consider

information that had been cited or submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in a prior application relied on under 35 U.S.C. § 120. 1138 OG 37, 38 (May 19, 1992).

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return a copy of the enclosed PTO-1449, and to indicate in the official file wrapper of this patent application that the documents have been considered.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date, but before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No statement or fee is required.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



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Date: May 7, 2002

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